

"Others"—Henry E Christensen

William Wilden (Wasden) (the old English S was written with a loop) prospected every nook and cranny of the West with his forked birch stick. He always accompanied Dad in his outpost explorations and Uncle William Wasden was the writer's mother's uncle. He was a metal worker in Sheffield, England.

Dad spent some time in Mexican territory and brought back to Utah a number of Spaniards, that he placed on his farm up toward Mayfield, east of his Christenburg Farm. Here he raised vegetables that rivaled anything grown in the

state. These Spaniards grew cauliflower over a foot across; tomatoes, which Father looked upon as poisonous; cucumbers that were considered questionable for human use, and heavy yields of cereals and lentils. This Spanish Farm was prolific in yield in those days.

Later after the Mayfield massacre this acreage was broken into smaller ownership farms, and mainly sowed in alfalfa, which Father introduced for cattle grazing and feed. Alfalfa was a profitable farm crop.



Bridge across Duchesne River

GILSONITE

In the section only visited by prospectors in the '80's was the Uintah Basin. It was spoken of as "Indian" country, even after Sam Gilson and Dad discovered the Gilsonite deposits around Vernal and tapped the rich deposits used for making paints, roofing, and almost a hundred utility articles. This section was cut off from travel. The natural barriers, precipitous high mountains, rivers, and deserts discouraged making the wealth of this wilderness area accessible

to settlers.

Way back in the age of swishing long skirts — very long ones — the town of Myton, Duchesne Co. built a bridge across the Duchesne River. Celebrating this event the women put on their Sunday finery, flower-decked hats parasols, and all, and promenaded out to the unfinished new bridge, because it was a great day linking the "Injun" country to the outside world. This was an epoch making event as great to that section as the "Golden Spike" was to the nation.